

38. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of claim 1 or 2 in a catalytic process.

39. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of claim 2 in dehydrogenation reactions.

40. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of claim 2 in the dehydrogenation of alkanes.

41. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of claim 2 in the dehydrogenation of C₂₋₄ alkanes.

42. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of claim 2 in the dehydrogenation of propane.

43. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of claim 2 in the hydrogenation of unsaturated hydrocarbons.

REMARKS

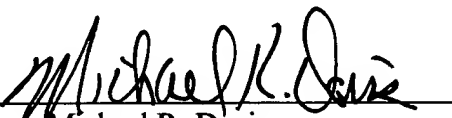
The specification has been amended to insert a cross-reference to the International Application.

The claims have been amended to correct their improper multiple dependency.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

4. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claims 1-3] claim 1 or 2, wherein M^{2+} is Mg.
5. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claims 1-4] claim 1 or 2, wherein M^{3+} is Al.
6. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claims 1-5] claim 1 or 2, wherein M^{3+} is further Ga.
7. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claims 1-6] claim 1 or 2, wherein the at least one metal salt or complex has been added in an aqueous solution.
11. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claims 9 and 10] claim 9, wherein the at least one metal salt or complex has been added in an aqueous inorganic acid solution.
13. (Amended) The catalyst of [the] claim 9 [and 10], wherein the acid aqueous solution is an aqueous solution of an organic acid.
15. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claims 1 and 2] claim 1 or 2, wherein the at least one metal salt or complex has been added in an organic solution.
17. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claim 1 and 2] claim 1 or 2, wherein the at least one metal salt or complex has been added by wet impregnation.
18. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claims 1-17] claim 1 or 2, wherein the contact time between the metal containing solution and the carrier material has been between 0.01 and 30 hours, preferably between 0.05-5 hours.
19. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claims 1 or 2] claim 1 or 2, wherein the at least one metal salt or complex has been added by incipient impregnation.
20. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claims 1-19] claim 1 or 2, wherein the hydrotalcite based carrier has been subject to preparation by mixing $Mg(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ and $Al(NO_3)_3 \cdot 9H_2O$ dissolved in water with a basic aqueous solution containing OH and CO_3 anions.

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37. (Amended) The catalyst of [the claims 30-33] claim 30, 31 or 32, wherein the salt of Sn is $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

38. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of [any of the claims 1-37] claim 1 or 2 in a catalytic process.

39. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of [any of the claims 2-37] claim 2 in dehydrogenation reactions.

40. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of [any of the claims 2-37] claim 2 in the dehydrogenation of alkanes.

41. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of [any of the claims 2-37] claim 2 in the dehydrogenation of C_{2-4} alkanes.

42. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of [any of the claims 2-37] claim 2 in the dehydrogenation of propane.

43. (Amended) The use of a catalyst of [any of the claims 2-37] claim 2 in the hydrogenation of unsaturated hydrocarbons.